

# Old State House Portraits Are To Be Restored Shortly Sun NOV 18 1958

[By a Sun Staff Correspondent]

Annapolis, Nov. 17—The Eighteenth Century portraits of Maryland's most important early citizens, cracked and blistered from years of exposure to the hot, dry air of the State House, have been scheduled for restoration.

Blanchard Randall, Secretary of State, said today the work is to begin as quickly as possible.

Seven thousand dollars was appropriated for the purpose Tuesday by the Board of Public Works from the emergency fund of the current budget.

Among the paintings which will get attention are nine by Charles Willson Peale. These include portraits of George Washington and early Maryland Governors Thomas Johnson and John Eager Howard.

"Washington Resigning His Commission," by Edwin Smith, perhaps the best known picture in the State collection, will be restored along with paintings by the early American artists, Thomas Sully and J. B. Bordley.

Portraits of the four Maryland signers of the Declaration of Independence, Charles Carroll of Carrollton, Samuel Chase, William Paca and Thomas Stone, also will be restored.

Mr. Randall said the restoration project is the result of three years' work by Governor McKeldin.

He said the Governor sought advice from a group of art ex-

perts, including Mrs. Adelyn D. Breeskin, director of the Baltimore Museum of Art, and Edward S. King, administrator of the Walters Art Gallery.

They examined the 75 paintings which hang in the State House and classified them as to need for repairs. The work is to proceed according to their recommendations.

Mr. Randall explained that many of the pictures, "while not great works of art, are certainly of historic interest."

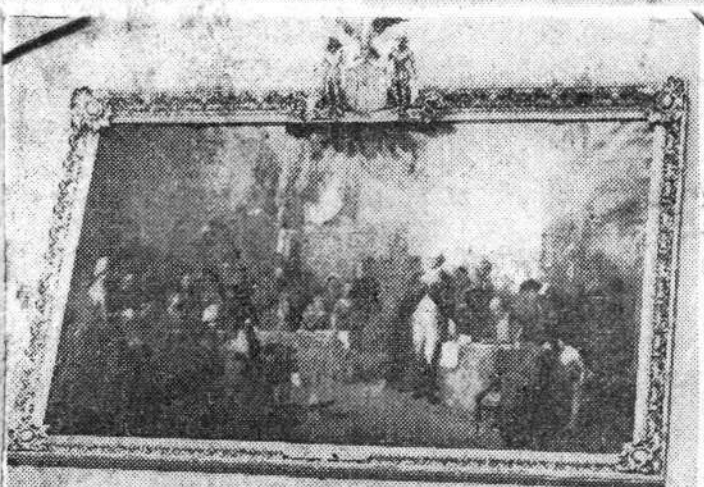
He pointed out that a great many persons visit the State House each year, and that Maryland has endeavored to keep it in as fine condition as possible.

"There is not much sense in polishing the furniture and letting the paintings deteriorate," he said.

It is hoped, he added, that all of the pictures eventually will receive some attention if necessary.

A small sum is to be appropriated each year for their care under the general heading of "housekeeping." A. D. B., Jr.

DO NOT CIRCULATE



**NEW LOOK FOR OLD FACES**—Old portraits in Maryland's State House will be restored. At top left is painting of William Pitt, British prime minister. At right, is Samuel Chase, the signer, and below, Washington resigning his commission.

*Sum*

11-18-1956

t  
r  
t  
i  
c  
i  
I  
t  
w  
is  
d  
l  
t  
t  
i  
b  
n  
p  
ir  
p  
h  
P  
C  
A  
to  
m  
tr  
m  
se  
ha  
He  
Pi  
po  
sc  
we  
sl  
th  
pa  
pa  
gi  
an  
Ki  
be  
ha  
po  
tw  
l  
alr  
col  
the  
ing  
list  
and  
ert  
Pe  
all  
not  
cor  
we  
cle  
M  
wer  
ing  
tra  
the  
Mr.  
ing  
now  
anc  
T  
long  
not